

BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION CUIVINIA SALVIN RECEIVED

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COMMISSIONERS

BOB STUMP - Chairman **GARY PIERCE** BRENDA BURNS **BOB BURNS** SUSAN BITTER SMITH 2014 SEP 19 A 11: 16

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Arizona Corporation Commission

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IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF LIBERTY UTILITIES (LITCHFIELD PARK WATER AND SEWER), CORP. FOR APPROVAL OF AN EXTENSION OF ITS CERTIFICATE OF CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY TO PROVIDE WATER UTILITY SERVICE IN MARICOPA COUNTY, ARIZONA.

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IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF LIBERTY UTILITIES (LITCHFIELD PARK WATER AND SEWER), CORP FOR APPROVAL

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CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY TO PROVIDE 13 WASTEWATER UTILITY SERVICE IN MARICOPA COUNTY, ARIZONA.

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IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF VALLEY UTILITIES WATER COMPANY, INC. FOR AN EXTENSION OF ITS CERTIFICATE OF CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY TO PROVIDE WATER UTILITY SERVICE IN MARICOPA COUNTY, ARIZONA.

DOCKET NO. W-01427A-14-0134

ORIGINAL

DOCKET NO. SW-01428A-14-0180

DOCKET NO. W-01412A-14-0262

PROCEDURAL ORDER (Grants Intervention)

BY THE COMMISSION:

On April 17, 2014, Liberty Utilities (Litchfield Park Water and Sewer), Corp. ("Liberty" or "Company") filed with the Arizona Corporation Commission ("Commission"), in Docket No. W-01427A-14-0134, an application requesting that the Commission approve an extension of its current Certificate of Convenience and Necessity ("CC&N") to provide water utility service to a new area known as Marbella Ranch development in Maricopa County, Arizona ("Water Docket").

On May 2, 2014, Liberty filed, in the Water Docket, a Notice of Filing that included copies of the written notice provided to all municipal managers within five (5) miles of the proposed extension area regarding Liberty's water CC&N extension application on file with the Commission.

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¹In 2013, Liberty changed its name from Litchfield Park Service Company dba Liberty Utilities to Liberty Utilities (Litchfield Park Water & Sewer) Corp. See Decision No. 74437 (April 18, 2014).

On May 13, 2014, Liberty caused a letter to be docketed, in the Water Docket, stating Liberty agreed with the Commission's Utilities Division ("Staff") to suspend the sufficiency review to allow the Company to file its related application for an extension of its current wastewater CC&N, and indicating that a joint review by Staff of both the water and wastewater applications would be more expeditious.

On May 19, 2014, Liberty filed, in the Water Docket, a Notice of Errata correcting errors in its Legal Description and Master Water Report.

On June 3, 2014, Liberty filed with the Commission, in Docket No. SW-01428A-14-0180, an application requesting that the Commission approve an extension of its current wastewater CC&N to provide wastewater utility service to the same general area requested in its Water Docket ("Wastewater Docket").

On June 4, 2014, Liberty filed, in the Wastewater Docket, an Amended Application For Extension of its wastewater CC&N.

On June 5, 2014, Liberty filed, in both the Water and Wastewater Dockets, a motion to consolidate both dockets. Liberty stated that, by consolidating both proceedings, resources would be better utilized as both dockets involve the extension of both the Company's water and wastewater CC&Ns to serve the same area known as Marbella Ranch development.

On June 13, 2014, by Procedural Order, the Water and Wastewater Dockets were consolidated ("Consolidated Liberty Docket").

On June 18, 2014, Valley Utilities Water Company, Inc. ("Valley") filed an Application for Leave to Intervene and Notice of Intent, stating it intended to file a competing application for extension of its water CC&N to serve the Marbella Ranch development. No objections were filed in opposition to Valley's request for intervention.

On June 30, 2014, by Procedural Order, Valley was granted intervention in the Consolidated Liberty Docket.

On July 3, 2014, Staff filed a Sufficiency Letter in the Consolidated Liberty Docket, stating that Liberty's applications for extensions of its water and wastewater CC&Ns had met the sufficiency requirements as outlined in the Arizona Administrative Code ("A.A.C.").

On July 10, 2014, Valley filed its competing application in Docket No. W-01412A-14-0262, requesting an extension of Valley's water CC&N to provide service to the Marbella Ranch development ("Valley Docket").

Also on July 10, 2014, a Procedural Order was issued scheduling a hearing in the Consolidated Liberty Docket for September 3, 2014, and setting other procedural deadlines.

On July 15, 2014, Valley filed a Request for Procedural Conference to discuss potential scheduling issues given the filing of its competing application.

On July 17, 2014, by Procedural Order, a Procedural Conference was scheduled for July 24, 2014.

On July 18, 2014, Liberty filed a Notice of Filing that included copies of the written notice provided to all municipal managers within five (5) miles of the proposed extension area regarding Liberty's wastewater CC&N extension application on file with the Commission.

Also on July 18, 2014, Valley filed a Motion to Appear Telephonically for the July 24, 2014, procedural conference stating that its counsel would be out of the state from July 23-25, 2014. By Procedural Order dated July 21, 2014, the Motion was granted.

On July 23, 2014, TRS 8, LLC ("TRS 8"), who is the developer for Marbella Ranch, filed public comment indicating that TRS 8 requests water and sewer services from Liberty and that TRS 8 did not request water services from Valley.

On July 24, 2014, a Procedural Conference was held as scheduled to address potential scheduling conflicts as a result of Valley's filing its competing application to serve the proposed extension area. At the conference, Staff indicated consolidation of the matters was preferred so as not to strain Staff's finite resources. Valley also sought to have the matters consolidated, but believed it was premature to consolidate the dockets prior to its application being found sufficient.

On July 31, 2014, Staff filed a Sufficiency Letter in the Valley Docket, stating Valley's application for an extension of its CC&N to provide water service had met the A.A.C. sufficiency requirements.

On August 5, 2014, Valley filed, in the Consolidated Liberty Docket and the Valley Docket, a motion to consolidate. Valley stated that the issues raised in each of the dockets are substantially the

On August 7, 2014, by Procedural Order, the Consolidated Liberty Docket and the Valley

Docket were consolidated ("Consolidated Docket"). The Procedural Order reset the procedural schedule on these consolidated matters, setting the hearing for September 24, 2014, and other

procedural deadlines.

On August 12, 2014, a Procedural Order was issued resetting publication and mailing deadlines for Liberty.

On August 22, 2014, Valley filed a copy of its Franchise Agreement Between Valley Utilities Water Company, Inc. and Maricopa County. Also on this date, Valley filed its Affidavits of Mailing and Publication of Public Notice.

On August 29, 2014, Staff filed its Request for an Extension of Time to File Staff Report. Staff requested an extension of the time deadline from August 29, 2014 to September 5, 2014, to file the Staff Report. Staff's request stated they had consulted with counsel for both Liberty and Valley and neither had an objection to the extension of the time deadline.

On September 2, 2014, by Procedural Order, Staff's Request for an Extension of Time to File Staff Report from August 29, 2014 to September 5, 2014 was granted.

On that same date, TRS 8, LLC ("TRS 8") filed an Application for Leave to Intervene.

On September 4, 2014, Staff filed its Staff Report.

same and that no party would be prejudiced by consolidation.

On September 11, 2014, Liberty filed its Certification of Publication and Proof of Mailing Notice.

There has been no objection filed to TRS 8's intervention request, and accordingly, TRS 8 should be granted intervention.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that TRS 8 is hereby granted intervention.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Ex Parte Rule (A.A.C. R14-3-113-Unauthorized Communications) continues to apply to this proceeding as the matter is set for public hearing, and shall remain in effect until the Commission's Decision in this matter is final and non-appealable.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that all parties must comply with Rules 31 and 38 of the Rules of the Arizona Supreme Court and A.R.S. §40-243 with respect to the practice of law and admission

pro hac vice.

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IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that withdrawal of representation must be made in compliance with A.A.C. R14-3-104(E) and Rule 1.16 of the Rules of Professional Conduct (under Rule 42 of the Rules of the Arizona Supreme Court). Representation before the Commission includes the obligation to appear at all hearings, procedural conferences, Open Meetings for which the matter is scheduled for discussion, unless counsel has previously been granted permission to withdraw by the Administrative Law Judge or Commission.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Administrative Law Judge may rescind, alter, amend, or waive any portion of this Procedural Order either by subsequent Procedural Order or by ruling at hearing.

DATED this \(day of September, 2014.

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this 19Th day of September, 2014 to: 17

Patrick Black

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Copies of the foregoing mailed/delivered

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